

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----049626 091101Z /13

O R 091032Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 917
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 1328

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: NGDS
TAGS: PORG, MARR, MOPS, UNSC, IS, LE, FR

1. I SAW SIILASVUO BRIEFLY MAY 9 TO SEE HOW HIS TRIP TO DAMASCUS HAD GONE YESTERDAY. HE SAID PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO KEEP SYRIANS IN THE PICTURE ON UNIFIL DEVELOPMENTS AND HE HAD BRIEFED DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER. FACT THAT NO MORE SENIOR SYRIAN OFFICIAL HAD WANTED TO SEE HIM SIGNALLED TO SIILASVUO THAT SYRIANS WERE NOT INTERESTED IN SERIOUS DISCUSSION. HE UNDERScoreD TO SYRIANS PROBLEM CREATED BY DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF RESOLUTION 425 AND OF UNIFIL MANDATE ON PART OF PLO AND UN AUTHORITIES. SYRIANS HAD NO COMMENT OR REACTION HE SAID.

2. ON THIS ISSUE OF ARAFAT'S TROUBLING INTERPRETATION

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OF UNIFIL MANDATE SIILASVUO SAID THAT HE HAS WARNED UNNY THAT IT SPELLED SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES FOR FULFILLMENT OF UNIFL MISSION. CONFIDING THAT HE BELIEVED UNNY WAS SOMEHOW TRUSTING IN GOL TO DETERMINE WHETHER CAIRO ACCORD WAS STILL IN EFFECT, SIILASVUO THOUGHT NEW YORK HAD AN EXAGGERATED VIEW OF ROLE AND ENERGY OF LEBANESE AUTHORITIES VIS-AVIS SOUTHERN LEBANON.

3. ON SITUATION AROUND TYRE AND FRENCH REDEPLOYMENT, HE SAID THAT FRENCH ARE DEFINITELY STAYING IN TYRE BARRACKS AND THAT PROPOSED MOVE OUT OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE. (AS RESULT WE ARE TOLD FRENCH WILL MAINTAIN BETWEEN 150-200 TROOPS IN BARRACKS AND WILL CONTINUE VEHICLE PATROLS ON COASTAL ROAD). FRENCH WILL TAKE UP NEW CHECKPOINT POSITIONS ON HIGHER GROUND IN SOUTHERN TYRE SALIENT AND SENEGALESE WILL TAKE UP NEW POSITIONS IN HIGH GROUND OF SALIENT NORTH FROM AL BAZURIYAH TO LITANI RIVER (MORE DETAILS BY SEPTTEL).

4. SIILASVUO TOLD ME THAT HIS MEETING WITH IDF CHIEF OF STAFF EITAN IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY MAY 12 AT 12:30. HE PLANS TO SEE BOUTROS AND KHOURY IN BEIRUT SOMETIME AFTER FRIDAY AND HYPES TO MOVE THE LEBANESE TO TALK TO HADDAD AND ALSO THE ISRAELIS REGARDING THE FUTURE OF ISRAELI-BEBANON BORDER. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY REGARDING UNIFIL'S OWN CONTINGENCY PLANNING RE "GOOD FENCE," HE SAID THAT AFTER IDF WITHDRAWS, UNIFIL WILL RE-MAN FIVE UNMO POSTS AND PLANS TO KEEP TROOPS IN THE LARGER TOWNS ON LEBANESE SIDE OF OLD ADL. KRUSE

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